

CLAIMS

1. An image output apparatus comprising:

input element for inputting an image data from a recording medium;

output element for printing out the image data;

temporary storage element for reading non-displayed image data from the recording medium and holding the non-displayed image data in a temporary storage section with holding already-displayed image data; and

display element for reading image data from the temporary storage section and displaying the read image data.

2. An image output apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the temporary storage element holds the image data in the temporary storage section or deletes the image data from the temporary storage section, according to an order of priority and a predetermined limitation.

3. An image output apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the priority order of non-displayed image data for the next display screen is set higher than those of other non-displayed image data.

4. An image output apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the priority order of non-displayed detailed image data or non-displayed simplified image data corresponding to a selected already-displayed image data or an already-displayed image data in the vicinity thereof is set higher than those of other non-displayed image data.

5. An image output apparatus according to claim 2, wherein

the predetermined limitation is set by specifying at least one of the maximum holding number of already-displayed image data or non-displayed image data and the maximum storage amount.

6. An image output apparatus comprising:

input element for inputting an image data from a recording medium;

temporary storage element for holding in a temporary storage section an image data that has been designated to be printed out; and

output element for reading the image data from the temporary storage section and printing out the read image data.

7. An image output apparatus according to claim 6, wherein when printout is designated from a list display, the temporary storage element reads image data to be printed out from the recording medium in advance before start of a printout process, and holds the image data in the temporary storage section.

8. An image output apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the temporary storage element holds the image data in the temporary storage section or deletes the image data from the temporary storage section, according to a predetermined limitation.

9. An image output apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the predetermined limitation is set by specifying at least one of the maximum holding number of image data and the

maximum storage amount.

10. An image output apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the predetermined limitation is calculated on the basis of the capacity of the temporary storage section or the number of the printing devices.

11. An image display method performed by an image output apparatus that prints out image data read out from a recording medium, comprising:

reading non-displayed image data from the recording medium and holding the non-displayed image data in a temporary storage section with holding already-displayed image data; and

reading an image data from the temporary storage section and displaying the read image data.

12. An image display method performed by an image output apparatus that prints out image data read out from a recording medium, comprising:

holding in a temporary storage section image data that is designated to be printed out; and

reading the image data from the temporary storage section and printing out the read image data.

13. An image output apparatus comprising:

input element for inputting an image data from a recording medium;

display condition specifying element for displaying selection items for each display condition and specifying the display condition through selection of a selection item;

display element for displaying the image data based on the display conditions; and

output element for printing out the image data.

14. An image output apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the display condition specifying element displays at least one representative image data matching the display conditions, while relating it to the selection item.

15. An image output apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the display condition specifying element displays at least one representative image data matching the display conditions, while relating it to the selection item, and switches the representative image data.

16. An image output apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the display condition specifying element displays information regarding the image data matching the display conditions, while relating it to the selection item.

17. An image output apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the display conditions include at least one of date, year, month, week, time of photographing or creation of the image data.

18. An image output apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the selection items are displayed on a calendar

19. An image display method performed by an image output apparatus that prints out image data read out from a recording medium, comprising:

(a) displaying selection items for each display condition and specifying the display condition through

selection of a selection item; and

(b) displaying the image data based on the display conditions.

20. An image display method according to claim 19, wherein the step (a) displays at least one representative image data matching the display conditions, while relating it to the selection item.

21. An image display method according to claim 19, wherein the step (a) displays at least one representative image data matching the display conditions, while relating it to the selection item, and switches the representative image data.

22. An image output apparatus comprising:

input element for inputting image data;
printing element for printing out image data using a plurality of printing devices; and

assigning element for assigning the image data to the plurality of printing devices, where the assigning element preferentially assigns the image data to be printed to the printing device that has printed out the least number of image data.

23. An image output apparatus comprising:

input element for inputting image data;
printing element for printing out image data using a plurality of printing devices; and
assigning element for assigning the image data to the plurality of printing devices, where the assigning element assigns the same image data to the same printing device.

24. An image output apparatus comprising:

- input element for inputting image data;
- printing element for printing out the image data using a plurality of printing devices; and
- assigning element for assigning the image data to the plurality of printing devices, where the assigning element assigns a smaller percentage of image data to a certain printing device than to other printing devices.

25. An image output apparatus comprising:

- input element for inputting image data;
- printing element for printing out the image data using a plurality of printing devices;
- assigning element for assigning the image data to the plurality of printing element;
- a plurality of removal openings corresponding to the printing devices; and
- a printed item conveying device for conveying printed items to a predetermined removal opening.

26. An image output apparatus according to claim 25, further comprising removal-opening open close element for opening an open and close flap of the predetermined removal opening and closing those of all other removal openings.

27. An image output method performed by an image output apparatus that prints out inputted image data, comprising:

- printing out image data using a plurality of printing devices;
- assigning the image data to the plurality of printing

devices; and

conveying printed items to a predetermined removal opening among removal openings provided for respective printing devices.

28. A program which causes a computer to function as the image output apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 10, 13 to 18, and 22 to 26.

29. A recording medium on which is recorded a program which causes a computer to function as the image output apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 10, 13 to 18, and 22 to 26.